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FLOOR DEBATE

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their vote to, in fact, include this amendment into LB 128. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm going to work with Senator Beutler to defeat this bill. This is a wide-open invitation to plunder the treasury and, to be frank about it, I'm getting a little weary of these smaller rural areas coming in here saying give us all this money and trust us. But you all will not help me stop abuses of the law in Omaha. You know what the Omaha City Council did yesterday or whenever they met? They declared the Henry Doorly Zoo to be blighted and substandard so that they can get tax increment financing. These are abuses of the law. When I stand up and fight against those laws when they're being offered I will always say the purpose is to gouge the public and help these people who already have the wherewithal to do what they want, and the bills go ahead and pass. Then the abuse surfaces and then I have to stand up and fight the battle again. Fortunately, while I was occupied on other matters this morning, Senator Beutler paid attention to this amendment. What you have in this process is a jockey that's bigger than the horse, or the jockey is carrying the horse. What is being offered by this amendment is of greater substance than the bill itself, and if this amendment is adopted I tell you all I'm going to do all I can, within the rules, to defeat this bill. I don't know how far Senator Beutler is willing to go on it, but once something comes to my attention and I believe that it is not in the interest of all of the public I will fight it. It's not necessary that this amendment be offered. It is not a reflection of public policy as formulated by the Legislature. It was brought by somebody. And I'd like to ask Senator Schrock a question since I may have missed some of his initial presentation.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Schrock.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Schrock, did you say that this...this amendment was brought to you by some agency or department?